



This is an official
DHEC Health Advisory

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Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Treatment Product Shortage
Contact your local or state health department for guidance

Tuberculin: Manufacturers of purified protein derivative (PPD) used in the tuberculin skin test (TST) are experiencing delays in production resulting in a nationwide shortage of tuberculin. Tubersol® in 50 test vials is expected to return to availability in a couple of months. Current production of the 10 test vial cannot meet demand resulting in further shortages.

Aplisol®, another form of tuberculin, is available. Due to increased demand, availability may be inconsistent. False positive results associated with Aplisol® are usually due to misreading of the TST. When reading TSTs, measure firm induration (not erythema or soft tissue swelling) and have the positive readings validated by an experienced employee health or TB nurse.

Recommendations for Responding to Tuberculin Shortages

- Prioritize TSTs for screening:
 - As part of an evaluation of persons with symptoms suggestive of TB disease
 - Persons infected with HIV
 - Contacts to a person with pulmonary or laryngeal TB
 - Persons arrived from high TB incidence countries within the past year
- Consider deferring annual screening of employees and others; consider priority candidates listed above—unless sufficient tuberculin is available
- Consider alternative screening tests such as an Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA)—blood tests for TB infection (T-SPOT.TB and QuantiFERON®—GIT)
- It would be reasonable to reassess institution risk analysis for health care worker testing at this time.

Isoniazid (INH): Currently, 300 mg tablets of INH are difficult to obtain and 100 mg tablets are becoming in short supply as well. Consider using 4 months of daily rifampin or 12 weekly doses of INH and rifapentine by strict directly observed therapy (DOT) for treating latent TB infection in those who fit the recommended categories. FDA updates on INH availability available at:
<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/DrugShortages/ucm314740.htm>

Based on availability of INH, use should be prioritized according to risk:

1. Active TB disease (as part of multidrug therapy)

2. High-risk latent TB infection

- *Recent contacts to persons with pulmonary or laryngeal TB disease*
- Persons with a documented TB skin or blood test conversion within the last 2 years
- Persons with medical conditions that increase their risk of progression to TB disease (e.g. HIV infection, immunosuppression, diabetes, persons on TNF-alpha antagonists)
- Persons with radiographic findings consistent with prior TB disease (e.g. fibrosis)

- Persons born in high TB incidence countries who arrived in the US within the last 2 years

3. Non-high risk TB infection: Persons currently on treatment. Delay treatment in others until availability is no longer an issue.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00340.asp>

DHEC contact information for reportable diseases and reporting requirements

Reporting of diseases is consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2013 List of Reportable Conditions available at:

<http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/reportables.htm>

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Regional Public Health Offices – 2013

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region.

Region 1

Anderson, Oconee

220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone: (864) 260-4358
Fax: (864) 260-5623
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-298-4442

Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda

1736 S. Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 1-888-218-5475
Fax: (864) 942-3690
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

Region 2

Greenville, Pickens

PO Box 2507
200 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29602-2507
Phone: (864) 372-3133
Fax: (864) 282-4373
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union

PO Box 4217
151 E. Wood Street
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217
Phone: (864) 372-3133
Fax: (864) 282-4373
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

Region 3

Chester, Lancaster, York

PO Box 817
1833 Pageland Highway
Lancaster, SC 29720
Phone: (803) 286-9948
Fax: (803) 286-5418
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-867-3886

Region 3 (continued)

Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland

2000 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: (803) 576-2749
Fax: (803) 576-2993
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-554-9915

Region 4

Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion

145 E. Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506
Phone: (843) 661-4830
Fax: (843) 661-4859
Nights / Weekends: (843) 601-7051

Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter

PO Box 1628
105 North Magnolia Street
Sumter, SC 29150
Phone: (803) 773-5511
Fax: (803) 775-9941
Nights/Weekends: 803-458-1847

Region 5

Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg

PO Box 1126
1550 Carolina Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29116
Phone: (803) 268-5833
Fax: (803) 533-7134
Nights / Weekends: (803) 535-9265

Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell

222 Beaufort Street, NE
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 642-1618
Fax: (803) 643-8386
Nights / Weekends: (803) 645-8167

Region 6

Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg

1931 Industrial Park Road
Conway, SC 29526-5482
Phone: (843) 915-8804
Fax: (843) 365-0085
Nights/Weekends: (843) 340-4754

Region 7

Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600
N. Charleston, SC 29405
Phone: (843) 953-0047
Fax: (843) 953-0051
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

Region 8

Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper

219 S. Lemacks Street
Walterboro, SC 29488
Phone: (843) 441-1091
Fax: (843) 549-6845
Nights / Weekends: 1-843-441-1091

DHEC Bureau of Disease Control

Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology

1751 Calhoun Street
Box 101106
Columbia, SC 29211
Phone: (803) 898-0861
Fax: (803) 898-0897
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